



TOWN OF BUCHANAN

TOWN HALL NEWSLETTER



June 2021

Summer Newsletter

Mayor: Craig Bryant

Vice Mayor James Manspile

Council Members: Chris Petty,
Chris Witt, Marty Rickman

Town Manager: Susan
McCulloch

540-254-1212

Website:
www.townofbuchanan.com

**NOTE: Check the website and door
of Town Hall for Public Hearings,
Public Service Announcements,
and updates**

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Town Manager's Message:

Greetings from Town Hall! Now that Virginia is relaxing its COVID-19 restrictions, so is your Town Hall. We are Mask Friendly now, just in time for Buchanan's summer events, and Carnival planning and preparations are in full speed!

I wanted to introduce myself. I was given the honor of being appointed by Council as your new Town Manager and started on April 12, 2021. I love this community already and have been meeting its wonderful citizens. It is a challenge to attempt to fill Jason Tyree's shoes; I know that he is extremely well-liked and did an amazing job here. I will do my absolute best to try.

I want to add how lucky I am to work in a place with such a great team of staff in place and leadership with the passion and drive to help Buchanan and its citizens. I look forward to help implement the Town's vision and goals. Please come by or call; I would love to sit down, stroll at the Park, or walk down Main Street to chat with you about your goals and thoughts about Buchanan.

I look forward to seeing you!

~ Susan McCulloch

Follow Us!

Follow the Town and "like" us on Facebook @Town of Buchanan, VA. You can also visit the Town website at www.townofbuchanan.com for important updates, public service announcements, town activities, and lots more!

Help Share the Town News

If you find this newsletter informative and interesting and want to forward a copy to someone, you can request another copy by visiting Town Hall. A copy of the newsletter will be placed on the Town's website.

***Reminders:**

Let's all be small business friendly and show support by parking for 2 hours at the 2-hour parking spaces in front of businesses.

We received a lot of recyclables at the Bulk Trash Day on April 17. Just a reminder that plastic, glass, and cardboard is welcomed at the recycle center at Buchanan Elementary School.

Before a Building Permit is obtained by Botetourt County, a Town Permit is required. There is a \$50.00 fee for the Town permit.

Before you dig dial 811, Miss Utility! 800-552-7001

Utility Payments can be submitted online for Water/Sewer/Trash pickup at <https://www.townofbuchanan.com/bill-payment.php>

WELCOME

Claudine Stump, our new Town Clerk!

STAFF SHOUT OUTS

Billy Eagle and Andy Newcomb for working diligently to prepare the Carnival buildings and grounds

Harry Gleason for the new entry Gateway work on Parkway Drive

Tina Kingery for her tireless work in preparing for the annual audit

Buchanan Community Carnival:

- Carnival planning has been in full force since the Spring, and we pushed forward with plans covering the mandates in effect, and were able to modify and then remove them as it approached.
- We are excited and feel this year's Buchanan Community Carnival will be a wonderfully attended event.
- Please see more information about music, pricing, and the schedule below.

67th Buchanan Community Carnival

Thursday, July 1st through Saturday, July 10th – Closed Sunday, July 3rd

Rides provided by Cole Amusement - Advance Tickets - \$20 may be purchased online at www.colerides.com; Wristbands purchased on the grounds - \$25

Wristband Specials: Thursday, July 1st - \$15; Monday & Tuesday, July 5th & 6th - \$15

July 3rd Activities: Buchanan Community Market – 10am – 3pm; Chicken BBQ – 11 am until sold out; Parade – 5pm; Fireworks – 10pm

2021 Entertainment Schedule: *Thursday, July 1* – On Common Ground; *Friday, July 2* – Glen Shelton; *Saturday, July 3* – The Frequency; **Sunday, July 4** – **CLOSED**; *Monday, July 5* – Phat Boyz; *Tuesday, July 6* – Mason Creek Bluegrass Band; *Wednesday, July 7* – Phat Boyz; *Thursday, July 8* – Wound Tight; *Friday, July 9* – Glen Shelton; *Saturday, July 10* – On Common Ground

Public Works: The Town is in the process of purchasing a 2021 F250 for Public Works, which has been badly needed for a long time. It should be ready before mid-August.

Budget: As a reminder, the Town of Buchanan has two (2) budgets, a General Fund, and a Utilities Fund Budget. Both budgets run in a “fiscal year” from July 1st to June 30th. Town Council adopted this fiscal year budget at their public meeting on June 12, 2021. Council is also doing a deep dive into the budget every 90 days to review trends and make changes as needed.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA): The Town will be receiving up to \$932,964.00 from the State of Virginia as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. Stay tuned for a work session where I will recommend projects to Council. The locality's proposed uses of the funds received as direct payment from the Commonwealth of Virginia under section 601(b) of the Social Security Act will be used only to cover those costs that:

- Support public health expenditures, by, for example, funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff

- Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector
- Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors
- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet

Nuisance Code Reminder: ‘Tis the season for tall grass. Below is a simplistic list of the current town nuisances we are enforcing. The full verbiage of the codes is much more complex and can be found on the town’s website or at Town Hall. Staff is reviewing issues on a complaint basis. If you have a complaint, please come to Town Hall or call Town Clerk Claudine Stump 540-254-1212 x1 to report. All complaints received are anonymous and protected under FOIA (Freedom of Information Act). Due to limited staff, the Town will attempt to review any complaints within one week of receiving the issue.

Nuisance Code Summary:

Inoperable Vehicles: Inoperable Vehicles are vehicles that are kept in the open. They must meet one of the following criteria; any motor vehicle, which is not in operating condition; or any motor vehicle which for a period of 60 days or longer has been partially or totally disassembled by the removal of tires and wheels, the engine, or other essential parts required for the operation of the vehicle; or any motor vehicle on which there are displayed neither valid license plates nor a valid inspection decal. Fine Amount \$200.00 per vehicle (first offense), \$500 per vehicle (each subsequent offense).

Overgrown Grass: All lawn areas, excluding any mature wooded areas or areas used for agricultural purposes, grass must be maintained at a height below twelve (12) inches. Fine Amount \$50.00 (first offense), \$100 (second offense), \$250 (each subsequent offense).

So far this year we have cited around 6 properties, and everyone has brought property into compliance within the deadline.

Buchanan Community Planning Meeting: As part of Jason Tyree and Harry Gleason’s hard work, the Town was able to receive a grant for Brownfields Planning. This opportunity allowed the Town to work with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) with consultants Cardno, and Dialogue & Design to host the Buchanan Community Planning Meeting on May 18, 2021. Approximately 20 people attended the meeting, which focused on discussion of area needing revitalization and ideas for Buchanan. The former Groendyk building, the former high school, and the Glow-a-Rama building were identified as top priorities for revitalization candidates. The next steps are to work to identify funding and projects for each of these sites, working with the property owners, VDEQ, Council, and the community.



Upcoming Town Meetings:

- Monday, July 12th at 7PM – Regular Town Council Meeting (Town Hall)
- July Work Session and Planning Commission Meetings **Cancelled due to Carnival**
- Monday, August 2nd at 7PM – Planning Commission (Town Hall)
- Thursday, August 5th at 7PM - Town Council Work Session (Town Hall)
- Monday, August 9th at 7PM – Regular Council Meeting (Town Hall)
- Thursday, September 2nd at 7PM – Town Council Work Session (Town Hall)
- Monday, September 6th at 7PM – Planning Commission (Town Hall)
- Monday, September 13th at 7PM – Regular Town Council Meeting (Town Hall)

NOTE: Work Sessions will be posted to the front door of Town Hall and advertised on the town's website several days in advance of the meeting or as per state code requires.

Town Hall Office Holidays:

Town Hall will be closed in observation of the following upcoming Holidays. The Fall/Winter Newsletter will list the remainder of 2021 holidays.

- Independence Day - Monday, July 5, 2021
- Town Staff Appreciation Day - Friday July 16, 2021
- Labor Day - September 6, 2021
- Patriot's Day - September 11, 2021
- Columbus Day - October 11, 2021
- Election Day - Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Frequently asked Questions (Reminders):

Could you please tell me about the Brush Dump?

- Only Town Residents can use the brush dump. Contractors are not allowed to use the brush dump.
- Please take your tree limbs (under 4 inch in diameter), bushes, and grass clippings
- Trash or wood material (such as a picnic table, or landscaping timbers) **cannot** be dumped. The contractor we use for the grinding will not allow this. However, during "Clean-Up Day", twice a year (April and October), the town provides a dumpster located near the public boat landing in which certain household items can be dumped.
- Please go to Town Hall to pick up the key Monday through Friday between 8 AM and 4:30 PM (closed at 12 PM to 1 PM for lunch)

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events:

- ✓ Reggae By the River – Saturday, July 31st – Gates Open at 4:30pm, Music, Food, Drink and Family Fun
- ✓ Buchanan Farmers'/Community Market – Saturday, July 10th & Saturday, August 7th, 10am – 3pm – Call 540-254-1212 x4 to be a Vendor
- ✓ Botetourt County Fair – Friday & Saturday, August 6 & 7
- <https://www.facebook.com/BotetourtCountyFair>

Welcome New Businesses!

- James River Drip (19860 Main Street, Buchanan)
- Circle R Roofing of Virginia (17518 Main Street, Buchanan)
- Stable Hill Studio & Gallery (19806 Main Street, Buchanan)

Home Occupations:

- Higeat Leasing Services of Virginia
- Cherese's Oils
- Perfectly Polished Mobile Nail Service
- Pro Services Contracting
- MMW Enterprises
- M. Detail Clean

Final Word

We hope you enjoy this issue of our Town newsletter and find the information useful. We have reprinted some information from past newsletters since the questions have been frequently asked. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Town Hall at 540-254-1212. As always, your feedback is appreciated.